

## PUGET SOUND LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

January 27, 2014 | Week 3

*The Puget Sound Legislative Update highlights the issues related to our region's work to protect and restore the health of Puget Sound, Washington's greatest natural asset.*

The 60-day legislative session is moving quickly and the first policy cutoff (Feb. 7) is fast approaching. Legislation that hasn't moved forward by then is usually considered "dead." Fortunately, the number of bill introductions is starting to slow down. To date, legislators have proposed more than 1,100 bills and we've analyzed and are tracking about 125 bills.

Every day brings new opportunities for collaboration and dialogue with our partners. This week we will join the Association of Washington Cities to emphasize the importance of the Public Works Assistance Account. This important resource helps local governments invest in improving aging or antiquated infrastructure to ensure clean water stays clean and polluted water is treated. These are critical issues to the health of Puget Sound.

If you plan to come to Olympia to meet with members or testify on a bill, please contact me and let us know how we can help.

We encourage you to share these Puget Sound Legislative Updates with friends and colleagues. Past and present editions are posted on our website: [http://www.psp.wa.gov/legislative\\_updates.php](http://www.psp.wa.gov/legislative_updates.php)

### Hot Topics

**Local Integrating Organizations**—Last week the South Sound Local Integrating Organization (LIO)—the Alliance for a Healthy South Sound—proposed Senate Bill 6187 and House Bill 2425 with a goal of increasing the allocation of federal Puget Sound funding for locally prioritized projects. Although the bill promotes a worthy intent, changes in federal funding allocations must take place at the federal level. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Puget Sound Partnership, and our boards have expressed significant concerns about this approach. We all agree on the importance of working together and having a regional dialogue with all other LIOs and EPA. The Puget Sound

### 2014 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

- The 2014 Legislative Session is scheduled from Jan. 13 to March 13.
- Puget Sound Legislative Updates are posted at: [http://www.psp.wa.gov/legislative\\_updates.php](http://www.psp.wa.gov/legislative_updates.php)
- For up-to-date Legislative information, visit: [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)
- Watch or listen to hearings and work sessions on: [www.tvw.org](http://www.tvw.org)
- Board members can participate in weekly coordination calls about issues in Olympia every Friday from 11:30 to Noon.
- Connect with PSP for breaking news and other events affecting Puget Sound on Twitter @PSPPartnership and Facebook: [www.facebook.com/PugetSoundPartnership](http://www.facebook.com/PugetSoundPartnership)

### Communication & Coordination

If you are planning to meet with legislators or would like assistance with state legislative issues regarding Puget Sound priorities, please contact:

#### Michael Grayum

State and Local Government Relations Director, 360-628-1907

Partnership and Governor's Office have committed to facilitate a conversation over the next year, and the EPA is receptive. A budget proviso is being drafted to solidify this approach. The Alliance has committed to hold their legislative proposal until after the regional dialogue occurs. The bill is no longer scheduled for public hearing in the Senate. The bill was never scheduled for hearing in the House.

**Public Works Assistance Account**—The House Capital Budget Committee will hold a work session at 8 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 28, to understand the impacts of diverting funds from the Public Works Assistance Account to the state General Fund. Then, on Thursday, Jan. 30, the Committee will hold hearings on HB 2244 and HJR 4215.

- **HB 2244** would end the diversion of the tax revenues that were formerly directed into the Public Works Assistance Account. In 2013, revenues were diverted from the account for six years. This bill would end the diversion after only two years. This hearing will provide the opportunity for local governments to illustrate the negative impacts of diverting these critical funds.
- **HJR 4215** is a resolution to ask the voters for an amendment to the state Constitution that would state “all” revenue levied for local government public infrastructure must be deposited into the Public Works Assistance Account and used specifically for those purposes.

**Watershed Councils**—Senate Bill 6381, sponsored by Sen. Ranker, authorizes the Partnership to review the existing framework of watershed councils and collaborate with them to provide recommendations to strengthen their role in achieving a healthy Puget Sound. A watershed council is defined as:

- Salmon recovery lead entities (*formed under chapter 77.85 RCW*)
- Local Integrating Organizations (*formed under guidance from PSP*)
- Watershed planning entities (*formed under chapter 90.82 RCW*)
- Other watershed councils (*formed by county governments*)
- Hood Canal Coordinating Council (*formed under chapter 90.88 RCW*)
- Marine resources committees (*formed under chapter 36.125 RCW*)
- Other groups identified in the legislation.

Senate Bill 6381 is scheduled for public hearing at 8 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 30, in the Senate Energy, Environment & Telecommunications Committee. The Partnership supports this bill.

## Session Cutoff Calendar

Legislation that fails to move past a cut-off deadline is usually considered “dead.”

- Feb. 7 - Last day to read in committee reports in house of origin, except fiscal and transportation committees.
- Feb. 11 - Last day to read in committee reports from fiscal and transportation committees in house of origin.
- Feb. 18 - Last day to consider bills in house of origin (5 p.m.).
- Feb. 28 - Last day to read in committee reports from opposite house, except fiscal and transportation committees.
- March 3 - Last day to read in opposite house committee reports from fiscal and transportation committees.
- March 7 - Last day to consider opposite house bills, except budgets and matters necessary to implement budgets.
- March 13 - Last day allowed for regular session under

## **Puget Sound Legislative Priorities**

**Oil Spill Prevention and Derelict Vessels**—In last week’s Legislative Update, we reported about an important oil spill prevention bill. We’re continuing to monitor it and plan to testify in support of a bill that expands the definition of “oil” and another that addresses the issue of derelict vessels. Derelict vessels are also of great concern to the health of Puget Sound because of their potential to leak oil and other dangerous wastes into the Sound. House Bill 2457 establishes several new mechanisms, as well as a funding source to deal with the problem the vessels create. The collection of a \$0.20 per foot fee on commercial moorage remains under discussion—negotiations between several partners continue.

**Climate Change**—The Senate Energy, Environment & Telecommunications Committee will hold a Work Session on climate change at 8 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 30. The committee will discuss two reports submitted last week by the Climate Legislative Work Group (CLEW). The CLEW was created by the Legislature to recommend a state program of actions and policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and achieve the state’s emissions targets. You can watch the upcoming Work Session on [www.tvw.org](http://www.tvw.org) and read the reports at <http://www.governor.wa.gov/issues/economy/climateWorkgroup>.

**Transportation Infrastructure**—The Governor recently sent a letter to the Senate imploring action on a transportation revenue package, though it appears to have had little effect. Sen. King, co-Chair of the Senate Transportation Committee, has introduced a series of “reform” measures intended to create efficiencies and permit streamlining for Washington State Department of Transportation projects, but most of these measures have yet to be scheduled for a hearing. Meanwhile, many Democrats and a coalition of interest groups including business, labor unions, environmental organizations, and local governments continue to call for the Senate to take up a transportation revenue package. There is still discussion among all four caucuses of ways to get this issue moving, and project lists are beginning to take shape. Differences remain in the scope and timing of reform efforts, as well as the sources of some of the revenue.

**Forage Fish Monitoring**—Sen. Rolfes sponsored Senate Bill 6072, which provides funding for monitoring of forage fish in Puget Sound. Last week, the Partnership testified in favor of this legislation because forage fish form the basis for the food chain and are vitally important to the health of Puget Sound. Monitoring is not sexy, but it is an important scientific tool for helping evaluate the effectiveness of actions and ensure accountability for investments. The Dept. of Fish and Wildlife is working with Sen. Rolfes to secure funding to implement the bill and it has not yet been scheduled for a vote.

**Aquatic Invasive Species**—House Bill 2458 and its companion, Senate Bill 6040, which address the issue of invasive species, both had hearings last week and the Partnership testified in support. The House bill is scheduled for executive session this week in the House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee.

**Sewers vs. Septics**—House Bill 2186 and Senate Bill 5995 would allow cities to permit septic systems as a main source of sewage treatment within Urban Growth Areas. The Partnership has concerns with these bills as they are now written. Both bills had public hearings last week and are on the docket for executive action this week. Stakeholders continue to work on a mutually agreed upon policy change.

## Rep. Lias appointed to Washington State Senate

The Snohomish County Council selected Rep. Marko Lias (D) to fill the Senate position recently vacated by Sen. Paul Shin in the 21st Legislative District, which includes Edmonds, Lynnwood, and southern portions of Everett. Sen. Shin retired recently due to health reasons. He was a respected and distinguished statesmen who will be greatly missed. Both Shin and Lias have been advocates for Puget Sound protection and restoration. We look forward to working with Sen. Lias in his new role. The Snohomish County Council appointed Lillian Ortiz-Self, a middle-school counselor, to take Lias' seat in the House.

## Sign-up for Puget Sound Partnership Updates

You can receive regular updates by signing-up for our electronic newsletter or E-clips news clipping service at [http://www.psp.wa.gov/contact\\_simple.php](http://www.psp.wa.gov/contact_simple.php).

## Bill Status

Summary of legislation we are tracking that our partners care and are scheduled for action this week.

### Urban Growth & Public Works (*water & sewer infrastructure*)

BILL	COMP BILLS	TITLE	SPONSOR	LATEST COMMITTEE MEETING INFO
HB 2186	SB 5995	Sewer system selection	Takko	Jan 27 - Scheduled for executive session in the House Committee on Local Government at 1:30 PM.
HB 2618		Code city public works	Gregerson	Jan 30 - Scheduled for public hearing and executive session in the House Committee on Local Government at 10:00 AM.
HJR 4215		Local public wrks/tx revenue	Warnick	Jan 30 - Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Capital Budget at 1:30 PM.
HB 2245		Urban growth areas/vesting	Ormsby	Jan 29 - Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Local Government at 8:00 AM.
SB 6194		Voluntary planning under GMA	Dansel	Jan 28 - Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Governmental Operations at 10:00 AM.
HB 2499	SB 6221	School siting	Wilcox	Jan 29 - Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Local Government at 8:00 AM.
HB 2234		Comprehensive plans/vesting	Fitzgibbon	Jan 29 - Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Local Government at 8:00 AM.
HB 2288	<a href="#">SB 5983</a>	Limiting authority of growth mgmt hearings boards	Buy	Jan 29 - Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Local Government at 8:00 AM.

## Habitat

BILL	COMP BILLS	TITLE	SPONSOR	LATEST COMMITTEE MEETING INFO
HB 2218	SB 6031	Lake & beach mgmt districts	Haigh	Jan 27 - Scheduled for executive session in the House Local Government Committee at 1:30 PM.
HB 2273		Public recreational access	Moeller	Jan 28 - Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Environment at 10:00 AM.
HB 2346		Fish passage barrier removal	Farrell	Jan 27 - Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Transportation at 3:30 PM.
HB 2386	SB 6246	Washington's shoreline	Van De Wege	Jan 28 - Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Environment at 10:00 AM.
HB 2580		Support for the Maritime industry	Tarelton	Jan 30 - Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Technology & Economic Development at 8:00 AM.
SSB 5973	HB 2126	Community forest trust acct	Rolfes	Jan 28 - Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Ways & Means at 3:30 PM.
SB 6185		Floating houses in harbors	Chase	Jan 28 - Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Natural Resources & Parks at 1:30 PM.
SB 6246	HB 2386	Washington's shoreline	McCoy	Jan 28 - Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Natural Resources & Parks at 1:30 PM.
SB 6381		Watershed councils/Puget Sound	Ranker	Jan 29 - Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment & Telecommunications at 8:00 AM.

## Water Quality & Water Quantity

BILL	COMP BILLS	TITLE	SPONSOR	LATEST COMMITTEE MEETING INFO
HB 2454		Water quality trading program	Blake	Jan 30 - Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources at 8:00 AM
HB 2478		Water pollution control	Schmick	Jan 29 - Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Environment at 1:30 PM.
SB 6087		Water quality & ag viability	Honeyford	Jan 28 - Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Water & Rural Economic Development at 10:00 AM

## Economic Development

BILL	COMP BILLS	TITLE	SPONSOR	LATEST COMMITTEE MEETING INFO
<b>SB 6355</b>		Projects/econ devel & trans	Hobbs	Jan 30 - Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Trade & Economic Development at 8:00 AM
<b>HB 2580</b>		Support for the Maritime industry	Tarelton	Jan 30 - Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Technology & Economic Development at 8:00 AM.

## Shellfish

BILL	COMP BILLS	TITLE	SPONSOR	LATEST COMMITTEE MEETING INFO
<b>HB 2387</b>	SB 6145	Official state oyster	Blake	Jan 29 - Scheduled for public hearing and executive session in the House Committee on Government Operations & Elections at 1:30 PM
<b>HB 2574</b>		Geoduck diver licenses	Chandler	Jan 28 - Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources at 1:30 PM.

## Invasive Species

BILL	COMP BILLS	TITLE	SPONSOR	LATEST COMMITTEE MEETING INFO
<b>HB 2458</b>	SB 6040	Invasive species	MacEwen	Jan 30 Scheduled for executive session in the House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources at 8:00 AM.
<b>HB 2460</b>	SB 6041	Fish & wildlife enforcement	Blake	Jan 30 - Scheduled for executive session in the House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources at 8:00 AM.

## Climate Change & Ocean Acidification

BILL	COMP BILLS	TITLE	SPONSOR	LATEST COMMITTEE MEETING INFO
<b>HB 2418</b>	SB 6268	Alt. fuel vehicle tax exemption	Fitzgibbon	Jan 28 - Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Finance at 8:00 AM.
<b>SB 6258</b>		Conservation by utility	Ericksen	Jan 30 - Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment & Telecommunications at 1:30 PM
<b>SB 6264</b>		Greenhouse gas reporting fee	Ericksen	Jan 29 - Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment & Telecommunications at 8:00 AM.



## Oil Spill Prevention & Response

BILL	COMP BILLS	TITLE	SPONSOR	LATEST COMMITTEE MEETING INFO
HB 2440	SB 6243	Oil or oils, definition of	Fitzgibbon	Jan 28 - Scheduled for executive session in the House Committee on Environment at 10:00 AM.
HB 2457		Derelict & abandoned vessels	Hansen	Jan 28 - Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources at 1:30 PM.
SB 6368		Pleasure craft-related const	Roach	Jan 29 - Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment & Telecommunications at 8:00 AM.

## Toxics

BILL	COMP BILLS	TITLE	SPONSOR	LATEST COMMITTEE MEETING INFO
HB 2246	SB 6177	Mercury-containing lights	Hunt, S.	Jan 28 - Scheduled for executive session in the House Committee on Environment at 10:00 AM.
SB 6157	HB 2469	Hazardous substance tax exemptions	Hatfield	Executive action taken in the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Water & Rural Economic Development at 10:00 AM to Ways & Means
SB 6177	HB 2246	Mercury-containing lights	Litzow	Jan 30 - Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment & Telecommunications at 1:30 PM

## Regulatory Enforcement

BILL	COMP BILLS	TITLE	SPONSOR	LATEST COMMITTEE MEETING INFO
HB 2261		Science use/agency actions	Short	Jan 31 - Scheduled for executive session in the House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources at 1:30 PM. (Subject to change)
HB 2262		Science use/agency actions	Short	Jan 28 - Scheduled for executive session in the House Committee on Environment at 10:00 AM.
HB 2438		Environmental statutes	Takko	Jan 28 - Scheduled for executive session in the House Committee on Environment at 10:00 AM.
HB 2439		Environmental statutes/DOE	Takko	Jan 28 - Scheduled for executive session in the House Committee on Environment at 10:00 AM.
SB 6045	HB 2192	State agency permitting	Brown	Jan 28 - Scheduled for public hearing and executive session in the Senate Committee on Trade & Economic Development at 8:00 AM.